

CLAIMS

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1. A system for processing and displaying data comprising:
a first processor which functions to generate an first image of a first graphical desktop user interface;
a first display screen connected to the first processor to display the first image;
a first pointing device connected to the first processor to control movement of a first cursor in the first image;
second processor means which include second visual display means and which are movable in relation to the first display screen;
means for communicating signals between the first processor and the second processor means;
means which determine a first relative direction, from the first display screen to the second visual display means; and
program means which expand the display of graphical desktop user interface onto the second visual display means at times when first processor is communicating with the second processor means and the second visual display means are also in the vicinity the first display screen so that movement of the first pointing device in the first relative direction causes the first cursor to move to and to appear to disappear off of an edge of first display screen and further causes the appearance of a new visual indication on the second visual display means.

1 2. The system of claim 1 wherein the second visual display means comprise a second
2 display screen and wherein the program means function so that movement of the first
3 pointing device in the first relative direction causes the first cursor to move to and
4 disappear off an edge of the first display screen in a direction toward the second visual
5 display means and to apparently seamlessly appear as a new cursor on the second display
6 screen.

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8 3. The system of claim 2 wherein the program means function so that the new cursor
9 appears at an edge of the second display screen which is oriented toward the first display
10 screen.

11 4. The system of claim 2 wherein the first pointing device further functions to control
12 movement of the new cursor on the second display screen.

13 5. The system of claim 2 wherein the program means function to cause the first cursor to
14 reappear on the first display screen whenever the new cursor is moved off the edge of the
15 second display screen in a direction toward the first display screen.

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19 6. The system of claim 1 wherein the first pointing device controls the appearance and
20 apparent movement of the new visual indication on the second visual display means.

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22 7. The system of claim 1 wherein the means for communicating is a docking cradle
23 attached at an edge of the first display screen for supporting the second processor means.

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2 8. The system of claim 7 wherein the means which determine comprise means which
3 sense that the second processor means are in the cradle.

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5 9. The system of claim 1 wherein the means for communicating are a wireless interface
6 and wherein the means which determine comprise a directional antenna array.

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8 10. The system of claim 1 wherein the means which communicate are an infrared light
9 interface and the means which determine are directional infrared sensors.

10 11. The system of claim 1 wherein the second visual display means comprise one or more
11 indicator lights.

12 12. The system of claim 1, wherein the second processor means is a device selected from
13 the group consisting of: personal data assistants, desktop personal computers, laptop
14 computers, digital cameras, audio players, video games, cordless telephones, cellular
15 telephones, television receivers, VCR's and scanners.

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19 13. A method for processing and displaying data comprising:
20 generating a first graphical desktop user interface image on a first display screen with a
21 first processor;
22 using a first pointing device to control movement of a cursor on the first interface image;

1 communicating signals between the first processor and second processor means, which
2 second processor means are movable in relation to the first display screen and which
3 include second visual display means;

4 determining a first relative direction from the first display screen to the second visual
5 display means; and

6 expanding the display of graphical desktop user interface onto the visual display means at
7 times when first processor is communicating with the second processor means and the
8 second processor means are also in the vicinity the display screen so that movement of
9 the first pointing device in the first direction causes the cursor to move to and to appear to
10 disappear off of an edge of first display screen and further causes the appearance of a new
11 visual indication on the second visual display means.

12 14. A system for processing and displaying data comprising:

13 a first processor which functions to generate an first image of a desktop graphical user
14 interface;

15 a first display screen connected to the first processor to display the first image;

16 a first pointing device connected to the first processor to control movement of a cursor in
17 the first image;

18 second processor means which include second visual display means and which are
19 movable in relation to the first display screen;

20 means for communicating signals between the first processor and the second processor
21 means;

1 means which determine a first relative direction from the first display screen to the second
2 visual display means; and
3 program means operating within at least the first processor to allow selection or movement
4 of an indication on the second visual display means in response to operation of the first
5 pointing device at times when first processor is communicating with the second processor
6 means and the second processor means are also in the vicinity the first display screen so
7 that operation of the first pointing device in the first direction causes the cursor to move to
8 and to appear to disappear off of an edge of first display screen together with a
9 corresponding visual indication on the second visual display means.